

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1908.—Copyright, 1908, by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association.

RULES AT OXFORD STRICT

WHICH IS SEEN IN THE FATE OF A SCION OF THE CECILS.

England Amused by One Phase of University Customs That Surprise Visiting American Students—A New Director Vagary of Dress—Amazonas Parade in London—Italian Vice-Consul Warns His Countrymen Not to Come Here—German Theatres Not Being Well—Count of Turin's African Travels—Pope and Pilgrims.

LONDON, Nov. 25.—The general public need not so very long ago, to hear little of the purely domestic concerns and trouble of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Undergraduates had their little rows with the authorities or among themselves, and unless something on a particularly large scale happened nothing was heard of them outside.

But to-day nothing escapes the attention of the popular press, and the doings of undergraduates are reported as fully as the proceedings of the suffragettes. Thus the annual celebration of Guy Fawkes day, November 5, at Oxford was duly described, and the world was informed that Randle William Gascoyne Cecil, son of the Rev. Lord William Cecil and grandson of the late Marquis of Salisbury, had been charged at the Oxford police court with assaulting the police captain upon that joyous occasion and fined 40 shillings and 5 shillings and sixpence costs.

Following on the police court proceedings Lord William Cecil wrote an indignant letter to the *Times* which has been copied into nearly every paper in the country and commented on with much sarcastic disfavor. Lord William wrote:

No doubt the letting off of fireworks in a street is a custom not to be encouraged and the men caught doing it should be fined by the proctors; but the modern plan of employing clumsy, lower class policemen to keep high spirited gentlemen in order is to take a course which must provoke a breach of the peace, and the poor boys, who had no criminal intent, but plenty of the high spirits of innocent and pure youth, find themselves in a police court with its concomitant degradation and publicity.

Parents pay a heavy cost for an Oxford education, because they desire that their sons should be brought in contact with the cultured and refined Oxford dons. The power of culture and refinement is never better displayed than in the exercise of the difficult duty of discipline.

Under its influence the barbarism of the school makes way for the civilization of the Oxford man. If the discipline of the university is to be delegated to the police the value of a university education is vastly diminished. A row between the police and the undergraduates tends to degrade all concerned.

There is no doubt a good deal of justification for Lord William's protest against the free use of the police in these little rows at Oxford and Cambridge, but to talk of "clumsy, lower class policemen" and "high spirited gentlemen" was too much for a democratic age, and Lord William has been chaffed unmercifully in print ever since the letter appeared.

The matter was just being forgotten when yesterday's afternoon papers announced that Lord William's high spirited son had been sent down from Oxford University. He was a member of University College and was discovered by a policeman after midnight throwing stones at the windows of Balliol College. He was taken to the police station, where he gave his name and explained that he was trying to arouse a friend.

The case was handed over to the proctors, with the result that young Cecil, who was in his first term, got sent down. The offences for which this somewhat severe punishment was inflicted was not that of throwing stones at Balliol's windows or of disorderly behavior. Offences of that kind would be met by fine or "gating," that is, being confined to the precincts of his own college for a certain number of days after P. M.

His serious offence was being out of college after midnight. Outside of moral offences that is one of the most serious breaches of university discipline, and that it should be so gives some idea of what Oxford discipline is and why Lord William Cecil should contend for its administration by the university authorities and not by the police.

The monastic system still survives to a considerable extent in Oxford. The writer not long ago took an American, an old college man, around Oxford. The American's first comments were upon the beauties of the place and the wonderful charm of its atmosphere. His next remarks referred to the bolted and barred aspect of every college.

"They might be prisons," he said. As a matter of fact every college in Oxford is in a way a prison. Every window looking on the outside is heavily and closely secured with iron bars; every gate is made as nearly as possible unscalable and every wall is surmounted with elaborate and murderous spikes.

From the moment that Big Tom, the great bell in Christ Church, has finished the hundred and two strokes, on which it starts at five minutes past 9 in the evening, every college in Oxford becomes a prison till next morning. Till midnight there is a modified form of imprisonment. Members of a college who are inside its walls when Big Tom has finished must remain inside till next day. Guests from other colleges may go out at any time up to midnight.

But they do not depart freely or without form. For each the porter unlocks the little door in the great gate, and as he goes out he says, "Mr. So and So," and for the privilege of having his guests let out Mr. So and So has to pay his college a penny for each up to 10 P. M., increasing to sixpence up to midnight, in some colleges to eightpence or tenpence.

On arriving at his own college the guest "knocks in," and his own college porter carefully enters the exact time he arrives, and he too pays his college a similar sum for the privilege of being admitted. The seriousness of being out of college after midnight may be guessed from the punishment inflicted on young Cecil.

In his case it must not be thought that his Oxford career has come to an abrupt

and untimely end. He has probably been sent down for the first time and will go up again as usual after Christmas. Still it means he has lost a term, and assuming that he passes his examinations and is in every way qualified to take his degree in the ordinary time, it means that he must still remain one more term in Oxford before he can take his degree, for one absolutely necessary qualification for a degree is to have resided a certain number of full terms.

As the precincts of his college are the undergraduate's bounds by night, so Oxford and its neighborhood are his bounds by day, and great precautions are taken to keep him within them. If he takes a run up to London without a written order, to obtain which he has to have or invent some good reason, he does so at the risk of being sent down. If he wants to take a drive he has to go to the proctor, who after hearing where he wants to drive and why he wants a written permission to drive to that place and no other on the day specified.

The arrival of the motor car has recently exercised the proctorial mind most seriously. The statutes of the university provide street regulations for the use of trains and horse drawn vehicles, but the motor car was unforeseen.

Obviously the undergraduate who owns or hires a fast car can get far away from the proctor's sphere of influence. He can run up to London and back by midnight, and London to the proctorial mind is no place for the undergraduate. He may live there for six months of the year in safety, but during the six months which form the Oxford year even a day in the wicked city is a thing to be allowed only with the greatest caution and for the strongest of reasons.

The Oxford proctors are vested with great and peculiar powers. Their jurisdiction extends over all members of the university in the city of Oxford, and to a considerable degree over other residents. They have the right to try in the Vice-Chancellor's court any case in which a member of the university is concerned. Whether it is an assault on the police, a refusal to pay his debts or any other offence against law and order committed by a member of the university and within their boundaries, the proctors may try the case and inflict the punishment.

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They can, for good cause, refuse to allow any man or woman to enter the city; they can also turn any one out of the city. These powers naturally are not often exercised, and with the growth of Oxford as a city of importance apart from its purely university status there has been an increasing tendency to allow the municipal authorities to take cognizance of many things in which years ago the university authorities would have asserted their rights.

There are two proctors, the senior and the junior. They hold office for a year and are elected by the governing bodies of the various colleges in turn. A proctor must of course be a full member of the university and must be a master of arts and have held that degree for a certain limited time, thus avoiding the election of men too old or too young properly to perform their duties.

Each proctor nominates two pro-proctors, who act as deputies. As already mentioned, the proctors are responsible for the whole discipline of the university. Their everyday duties so far as the undergraduates are concerned are chiefly of a police nature, and consist to a great extent of seeing that the undergraduate does not commit any of those numerous offences which are offences for undergraduates and for no one else. The innocent game of billiards, for instance, is forbidden to the undergraduate.

Yet there is probably no town in England except Cambridge which for its size contains more billiard rooms than Oxford, and they are supported practically entirely by the undergraduates. By an unwritten law faithfully observed by most proctors the billiard rooms are left in peace between the hours of 1 and 7 in the afternoon. Before 1 and after 7 there is always a chance of a proctor turning up in a billiard room and taking the name and college of any man he finds there. An appointment is made for the following morning and the culprit usually contributes ten shillings to the university chest if he was found in a private billiard room, or a pound if he was in a room on licensed premises.

To be on licensed premises at any time of day is in itself an offence. Nearly every morning and afternoon and every night a proctor or pro-proctor will draw

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A Lot of 150 Modern Orientals, \$5.50 to \$13.75. All clean perfect Rugs at a third less than their real worth; sizes average 2½x4 ft. and 3x5 ft.

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15 beautiful Afghan Rugs, sizes 6x9 to 8x12½ ft., reduced \$15.00 to \$75.00 per rug.

35 fine India Rugs, sizes 8x10 to 9x20 ft., reduced \$40.00 to \$125.00 per rug.

15 Magnificent Kirman Rugs, sizes 9x12 to 12x15 feet, reduced from \$75.00 to \$250.00 per Rug.

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You can best appreciate these values by realizing that Furs are advancing in cost at a record rate owing to great scarcity. Every day the wholesale cost becomes greater. BUY NOW!

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At \$27.50, value \$35.00. French dyed Russian pony skins, 27 inches long, shawl collar, lined with striped silks or Skinner's guaranteed satin.

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At \$49.75, value \$65.00. 50 inches long, fine quality foreign dyed Russian pony skins, semi-fitted back, shawl collar; Skinner's satin lining.

At \$67.50, value \$85.00. Made of fine moire pony skins, 50 inches long, semi-fitted back, shawl collar, striped or plain satin linings.

At \$79.50, value \$100.00. French dyed Russian pony skin Coats, 50 inches long, with large shawl collar of dyed American fox.

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At \$125.00, value \$165.00, \$185.00 and \$195.00 up to \$275.00, values from \$100.00 to \$300.00.

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At \$375.00, value \$525.00. Natural mink Coats, 28 inches long, semi-fitted back, finished with cravat at neck and heads and tails.

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At \$79.50, value \$100.00. 50-inch caracul Coats, shawl collar, broadened silk lining.

At \$127.50, value \$160.00. 50-inch caracul Coats, fine glossy skins, large shawl collar of black lynx, broadened silk lining.

Nearseal.

At \$79.50, value \$95.00. 50-inch nearseal Coats, shawl collar, semi-fitted back, lined with broadened silks.

At \$92.50, value \$125.00. Made of finest quality near-seal, 50 inches long, shawl collar, broadened silk lining.

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At \$375.00, value \$525.00. Natural mink Coats, 28 inches long, semi-fitted back, finished with cravat at neck and heads and tails.

At \$44.75, value \$60.00. 30-inch caracul Coats, shawl collar.

At \$79.50, value \$100.00. 50-inch caracul Coats, shawl collar, broadened silk lining.

At \$127.50, value \$160.00. 50-inch caracul Coats, fine glossy skins, large shawl collar of black lynx, broadened silk lining.

Nearseal.

At \$79.50, value \$95.00. 50-inch nearseal Coats, shawl collar, semi-fitted back, lined with broadened silks.

At \$92.50, value \$125.00. Made of finest quality near-seal, 50 inches long, shawl collar, broadened silk lining.

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Whatever the article selected, one wishes it to be the best of its kind; so reputable in its class that the one to whom it is given will know that nothing of higher merit could have been chosen.

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Stands pre-eminently in the class of the few world's best Pianos. Without exaggeration we emphatically say there is nothing beyond it in Piano construction.

Since Charles H. Sterling established the Sterling Company in 1860, every year has added to the benefits of Sterling success. Every year has marked a new milestone of progress and extended the appreciation of the Piano's artistic qualities and permanent music giving satisfaction. This

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the modern Piano that any one can play, whether knowing a note of music or not. The wonderful success of combining The Sterling Piano and Sterling Cabinet Player into one instrument has met with appreciation far beyond our most sanguine expectations. No one who buys one fails to recommend it to friends, so that the chain is growing longer and stronger every day.

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Messaline Silk Waists, at \$5.98.
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Silk Lined Net Waists, \$1.97.
Tailored Satin Waists, \$3.98.
Black Foul de Sole Waists, \$2.98.
Vests, ranging in price from 98c. to \$1.98.

Extraordinary Sales for Tuesday.

Norfolk, ranging in price from \$1.98 to \$5.98.
Lawn and Batiste Lingerie Waists, \$2.98.
White Lawn Waists, \$2.49.
White Lawn Waists, \$1.98.
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White Lawn Waists, at 98c.
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Women's all linen Handkerchiefs, 49c.
Women's all linen Handkerchiefs, 6 in a box, \$1.45 and \$2.75.
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Men's all linen initial Handkerchiefs, 6 in a box, 79c., \$1.50 and \$2.10.
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